



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

AFRICA

Regional Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Program

Creating Innovative Partnerships for Success and Impact



Women bear the burden of water collection for family needs.



Partnerships strengthen community water and sanitation programs.

INTRODUCTION

Sub-Saharan Africa struggles to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation by 2015. A growing population, limited financing and technical capacity, combined with conflicts throughout the region, are stressing already weak systems.

The U.S. Government has a renewed commitment to helping African partners meet the water and sanitation goals through programs implemented by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC).

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

USAID's approach is to foster and support sustainable African-led development. Our strategy is based on effective partnerships, solid research, and building on best practices. We are forging partnerships with governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, and bilateral and multilateral foreign assistance agencies in order to leverage funding for the greatest impact.

USAID programs in Africa provide water supply, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance through more than 24 country Missions and 3 regional Missions. USAID's Africa Country and Regional Missions are working with host governments and institutions creating a new WASH portfolio including:

- Improving sanitation and hygiene in schools in eleven countries, creating a safe, healthy environment in which children can learn.
- Focusing on the vulnerable members of society – mothers and children. Seventeen Missions are improving household sanitation and hygiene through education and improved conditions.
- Almost \$10 million in funding is programmed for household-level water, sanitation and hygiene interventions such as promoting the safe storage of water and water treatment at the point-of-use.
- Nineteen USAID Missions are providing targeted support in the expansion of sanitation services with activities ranging from creating demand for sanitation and training entrepreneurs to meet this demand to advising on the safe disposal of waste.

USAID's centrally managed WASH initiatives in Africa are supported by a range of innovative partnership initiatives:



School children washing hands following HIP program training.



Private sanitation facilities are a source of local pride.

HYGIENE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (HIP)

This USAID program reduces diarrheal disease and increases child survival through sustainable improvements in key hygiene behaviors: hand-washing with soap, safe feces disposal, and safe storage and treatment of drinking water at the household level.

(www.hip.watsan.net)

WEST AFRICA WATER INITIATIVE (WAWI)

WAWI is based on the vision of the Conrad H. Hilton Foundation. The \$45 million public-private partnership grew from experience with World Vision and other NGO partners. WAWI is engaged in WASH and integrated water resources management activities that benefitted 500,000 people in West Africa by 2008.

(www.usaid.gov/our_work/environment/water/wawi.html)

SUSTAINABLE WATER AND SANITATION FOR AFRICA (SUWASA)

USAID's new \$20 million SUWASA program promotes innovative reform and financing approaches to water and sanitation provision in Sub-Saharan Africa.

AFRICAN-LED INITIATIVES

African-led initiatives are critical to ensuring the sustainability of reform and growth. USAID is supporting the *African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW)* in providing political leadership, and policy direction in the provision, use and management of water resources. USAID is assisting the new *African Water Operators Partnerships (AWOPs)* which shares best practices and builds utility capacity via operator-to-operator partnerships across the continent.

USAID/THE COCA-COLA COMPANY WATER AND DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE (WADA)

WADA is increasing access to water supply and sanitation services for the poor and protecting high value watersheds and water sources. With \$20 million of funding to date, WADA is addressing water needs in Angola, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania, and Uganda.

For more information, please visit:

www.usaid.gov/our_work/cross-cutting_programs/water/